

Congresswoman Nita M. Lowey

Federal Flood Assistance



Dear Friend,

On Tuesday, April 24, 2007, President Bush declared a major disaster in Westchester and Rockland Counties following the Nor'easter that caused major flooding in our area. I commend the President for acting **so** quickly to recognize the critical needs facing our region.

This disaster declaration will begin the flow of desperately-needed federal aid from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Small Business Administration (SBA) for local residents and businesses affected by the floods.

If you suffered damage to your home or business, please see the information on the next page about the steps you must take in order to apply for federal assistance.

As we work to secure every possible federal resource to recover from this storm, please rest assured that I am also fighting to take the necessary steps to mitigate future floods.

If you have any questions or problems applying for assistance, please contact my office at 914-428-1707 or 845-639-3485, and we will try to help in every way we can. Please visit my website at www.house.gov/lowey for updated information on this process.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Nita".

Congresswoman Nita Lowey has toured damaged areas of the 18th district in the wake of floods caused by the recent Nor'easter.

Contact Congresswoman Lowey

Via Phone: 914-428-1707 - 845-639-3485 - 202-225-6506 Via Fax: 914-328-1505 - 202-225-0546

Via Mail: 222 Mamaroneck Avenue, Suite 310, White Plains, NY 10605

2329 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515

On the web: www.house.gov/lowey

To apply for federal flood assistance from FEMA, take the following steps:

Contact your insurance company: If you are NOT covered for the storm damage by your insurance company, you may be eligible for federal aid. You will need to obtain a letter from your insurance company saying you are not covered for damage from the storm.



Apply for FEMA aid: Residents and businesses can register for aid online at www.disasteraid.fema.gov/ or by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362). Hearing/speech impaired residents should call TTY 1-800-462-7585.

FEMA will also set up Disaster Recovery Centers to provide additional assistance and information for those who need it. Check www.house.gov/lowey where you can find a list of these locations as soon as they are available.

In addition to having a pen and paper, have the following information ready for the FEMA representative who answers your call:

- A description of your losses that were caused by the disaster;
- Insurance information;
- Directions to your damaged property; and
- A telephone number where you can be contacted.

Here's what to expect after you apply:

Inspection: If an inspection is required to process your application, an inspector will contact you to make an appointment to visit your property and assess the damage about 10 days after you have applied for help.

Decision: Within approximately 10 days of the inspector's visit, you should receive a letter from FEMA informing you of the decision on your request for help.

If you are eligible for help, the letter will be followed by a U.S. Treasury/State check or there will be a transfer of cash to your bank account. The letter will explain what the money can be used to pay for. You should use the money given to you as explained in the letter.

If you are not eligible for help, the letter will give the reason for the decision. You will be informed of your appeal rights in the letter from FEMA.

If you are referred to the SBA Disaster Assistance Program, you will receive an SBA application.